



SAN FRANCISCO MEDICAL SOCIETY

250 MASONIC AVENUE • SAN FRANCISCO 18, CALIFORNIA • WEST 1-7200

August 3, 1961

Joshua Lederberg, Ph.D.
Stanford Medical Center
Palo Alto, California

Dear Doctor Lederberg:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter from an obviously
upset patient.

We would appreciate it very much if you would advise
us on how to answer Mr. Gamon.

Sincerely,

Edgar Wayburn

EDGAR WAYBURN, M.D.
Secretary

Enclosure

This is a complicated issue but I have to agree with Mr. Gamon
that Dr. Alvarez is doing a great disservice with these dogmatic
and ill-informed remarks. His recent column on the utter harmlessness
of radiation betrays the same arrogance. All you can say, probably, is that
Dr. A. is expressing a personal opinion, as he is entitled to do on controversial
subjects, & does not necessarily represent the profession.
For an explicit discussion - cf. Stern, Principles of Human Genetics, Chaps. 27.

J. L.

ALVAREZ, 100005

Alvarez

Lee